## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAKAR 03314 051159Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 IO-13 /103 W

-----025563 051208Z /45

R 050705Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3958
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AT MBASSY TOKYO 0119
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

CONFIDENTIAL DAKAR 3314

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS:PORG, PEPR,PINT, RP
SUBJECT: DAKAR ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE - V:
PHILIPPINE MOSLEM PROBLEM

REF: (A) DAKAR 3074, (B) DAKAR 3213, (C) DAKAR 3305, (D) DAKAR 3306

- 1. BANGLADESH AMBASSADOR ZAMAN IS OLD FRIEND OF PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR CASTRO WHO WAS HEAD OF PHILIPPINE LOBBYING DELEGATION TO ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE IN DAKAR APRIL 24-28. ZAMAN PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND TO CONFERENCE TREATMENT OF MORO MOSLEM MINORITY QUESTION.
- 2. AMB. CASTRO SAID THAT GOP OBJECTIVE AT CONFERENCE WAS TO AVOID ANY RESOLUTION ON MORO PROBLEM IN ORDER TO GIVE HIS GOVERNMENT TIME TO WORK OUT A SOLUTION WITH THE REBEL GROUPS. CASTRO SAID THAT OPPOSITION TO MISUARI HAD DEVELOPED WITHIN MORO MOVEMENT, AND THIS WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR GOP TO ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION.

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PAGE 02 DAKAR 03314 051159Z

3. DURING CONFERENCE ITSELF, PREPARATORY COMMITTEE PRODUCED A BLAND RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT WORKED OUT BETWEEN LIBYA AND THE GOP TO GIVE AUTONOMY TO THE MOSLEMS, BD TO RECOGNIZE THE MLF AS THE ONLY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MOSLEM MINORITY. AMB. ZAMAN SAID THAT THE

RESOLUTION WAS A REPEAT OF LAST YEAR'S TEXT PRODUCED AT TRIPOLI. THE RESOLUTION WAS NUMBER SEVEN ON AN AGENDA OF 40 ITEMS, AND WAS REACHED FOR DISCUSSION AT 10 P.M. THE NIGHT OF APRIL 26. NOTING THE FATIGUE OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS, CHAIRMAN SYLLA OF SENEGAL READ THE DRAFT RESOLUTION AND DECLARED IT PASSED WITHOUT DEBATE. SO IF THE GOP HAD BEEN ABLE TO GENERATE ANY SUPPORT FOR HAVING NO RESOLUTION AT ALL, IT HAD NO OPPORTUNITY TO MANIFEST ITSELF.

4. ZAMAN EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF MISSAURI AND HIS BRANCH OF THE MLF WAS TO MAINTAIN EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION FROM THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE. HE SUCCEEDED INTHIS WITH LIBYA'S HELP. ALTHOUGH THE SPLIT IN THE REBEL MOVEMENT WAS NOT ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE CONFERENCE, AND THE GOP WAS NOT ABLE TO AVOID A RESOLUTION, THE GOP COULD TAKE COMFORT IN THE FACT THAT THE RESOLUTION REPRESENTED NO CHANGE FROM LAST YEAR. COHEN

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## Message Attributes

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